

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Please replace originally filed FIG. 2 with amended FIG. 2 found on the Replacement Sheet attached to this response. In amended FIG. 2, a processor 39 has been added, as requested by the examiner.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3 – 20 and 22 – 28 are currently pending and rejected.

The applicants amend claims 1, 13, 15, 16 and 25. The applicants respectfully assert that claims 1, 3 – 20 and 22 – 28, as amended, are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed below.

Objection to the Drawings

To overcome the examiner's objection to the drawings, the applicants have amended FIG. 2 to show a processor 39 in the housing 34, and have amended paragraph 7 to specifically refer to the processor 39 of the processing circuitry.

The attached Replacement Sheet contains Fig. 2 as amended, and the Annotated Marked-up Drawing Sheet contains the originally-filed FIG. 2 with the amendment circled.

No new matter has been added to the application with these amendments to the drawings and specification.

Objection to Claims 13 and 15

The applicants respectfully disagree with the examiner's objection to claims 13 and 15 because the applicants assert that in the context of the larger phrase "a device external" is clearer than "an external device". The larger phrase is "a communication medium coupled to the interface and to a device external to the housing". Written this way it is very clear that the device is external to the housing.

The phrase incorporating the examiner's suggestion would read "a communication medium coupled to the interface and to an external device to the housing". Written this way it is not clear what part of the larger phrase "to the housing" modifies.

Rejection of Claims 1, 3 – 12 and 22

The applicants respectfully assert that claim 1, as amended, is patentable over U.S. Patent 5,655,933 issued to Skowronski (Skowronski) at least because Skowronski fails to disclose a passage that does not have circuitry disposed in it.

Skowronski discloses a housing that includes a bottom 36, walls 40 and a top 22. When these components are assembled, the housing defines a passage in which the circuit board 18 is disposed. Unlike the applicants' passage that does not have circuitry disposed in it, Skowronski's passage contains the circuit board 18.

Claims 3 – 12 and 22 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies on claim 1.

Rejection of Claims 13 and 14

Claim 13, as amended, is patentable over Skowronski at least for reasons similar to those recited above in support of claim 1 over Skowronski.

Claim 14 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 13, as amended.

Rejection of Claim 15

Claim 15, as amended, is patentable over Skowronski at least for reasons similar to those recited above in support of claim 1 over Skowronski.

Rejection of Claims 16 – 20, 23 and 24

Claim 16, as amended, is patentable over Skowronski at least for reasons similar to those recited above in support of claim 1 over Skowronski.

Claims 17 – 20, 23 and 24 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies on claim 16, as amended.

Rejection of Claims 25 – 28

Claim 25, as amended, is patentable over Skowronski and U.S. Patent 6,590,777 issued to Morino *et. al.* at least for reasons similar to those recited above in support of claim 1 over Skowronski.

Claims 26 – 28 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies on claim 25, as amended.

Conclusion

The applicants respectfully request the examiner withdraw the rejection against claims 1, 3 – 20 and 22 – 28, as amended, and issue an allowance for these claims.

If, after considering this response, the examiner believes the claims should not be allowed, the applicants' attorney respectfully requests that before issuing an Office Action, the examiner call Mr. Janeway (425-455- 5575) to schedule a telephone conference to further the prosecution of the claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge, at any time during the pendency of this application, any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.25.

Dated this 13th day of November 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP ANNOTATED DRAWING

